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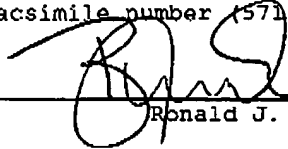
JUL 27 2006

PATENT
NON-FINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/758,541 Confirmation No. 5595
Applicant : Shigekazu YASUOKA et al.
Filed : January 16, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1745
Examiner : John S. Maples
Dkt. No. : SNY-049
Cust. No. : 20374

I hereby certify that this paper is being
facsimile transmitted on July 27, 2006, to
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Ronald J. Kubovcik

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE SECOND OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 25, 2006**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 27, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2006. A petition for a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Reconsideration and removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections made in the Action are respectfully requested for the reasons explained below.

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